MEDIA RELEASE
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NEW INDUCTEES OF PRESTIGIOUS BRAGG MEMBERSHIP

The Royal Institution of Australia will honour prominent Australian scientists and leaders with a prestigious Bragg Membership, in a ceremony to be held today.

On behalf of Patron, The Duke of Kent KG GCMG GCVO ADC, Mr Peter Yates AM, Chairman of The Royal Institution of Australia will formally induct Dr Megan Clark AC, Professor Michael Reade, Emeritus Professor Maree Smith and Mr Alan Joyce AC as Honorary Bragg Members.

Named after the prominent Australian Pioneer scientists, Sir William Henry Bragg and Sir William Lawrence Bragg, Honorary Bragg Membership is the highest category of membership awarded by The Royal Institution of Australia and recognises excellence in scientific achievement and commitment to science in Australia.

‘In Australia, we are truly fortunate to have so many remarkable scientists and scientific leaders, who are each making a significant contribution to the future of this country and beyond’, said Mr Peter Yates AM. ‘We are pleased to welcome our new inductees and to celebrate the achievements of these inspirational people’.

‘By acknowledging and honouring our industry leaders we hope to inspire the next generation of scientists and STEM graduates who will play an important role in the development of Australia as an innovative nation’, he said.

Leading Military Physician Professor Michael Reade noted: “I first learnt of the Royal Institution in the UK when I attended Prof. Harry Messel’s “International Science School” at the School of Physics at the University of Sydney in 1987. This was a key factor that determined my choice of career after school. Science provides so many tangible, objective and beneficial ways to follow Prof. Messel’s advice to “pursue excellence”. I am honored to be inducted as a Bragg Member of such an important national institution”.

The new inductees join 40 other distinguished Bragg Members including former astronaut Andy Thomas, developer of the HPV vaccine, Professor Ian Frazer AC as well as Nobel Prize winners, Professor Brian Schmidt AC and Dr Elizabeth Blackburn AC.

*The ceremony is part of a private function to be held in Melbourne – photos supplied upon request.
Biographies

Dr Megan Clark AC

Dr Clark is currently Head of the Australian Space Agency and a director of Rio Tinto, CSL Limited and CARE Australia. She was Chief Executive of the CSIRO from 2009 to 2014. Prior to CSIRO, she was a Director at NM Rothschild and Sons (Australia) and was Vice President Technology and subsequently Vice President Health, Safety and Environment at BHP Billiton from 2003 to 2008. Dr Clark holds a BSc from the University of Western Australia and a PhD from Queen’s University, Canada and is a Fellow of ATSE. In 2014, Dr Clark was appointed a Companion of the Order of Australia.

Professor Michael Reade

Professor Reade is an intensive care physician and clinical academic in the Australian Defence Force, seconded to the University of Queensland as the inaugural Professor of Military Medicine and Surgery. With the rank of Colonel, he is Clinical Director of the Regular Army’s only field hospital and has deployed nine times, including twice to Afghanistan and three times to Iraq. His research interests are trauma systems design, fluid resuscitation in trauma, and trials of tranexamic acid and the management of delirium in critical illness. He is a leading authority on blast and ballistic trauma, and the cryopreservation of blood components. His frozen platelet trial program, conducted with the Australian Red Cross Blood Service, aims to improve worldwide access to this vital component of trauma resuscitation.

Emeritus Professor Maree Smith

Emeritus Professor Maree Smith is a leading researcher in discovery/translation with particular expertise in the novel pain therapeutics field. She is inventor on several patented analgesics technologies, with one licensed to the University of Queensland (UQ) spin-out company, Spinifex Pharmaceuticals, for commercialization. In mid-2015, Spinifex was acquired by Novartis in the largest biotech deal to date in Australia. In the period 2005 to 2017 - in the role of Executive Director, UQ Centre for Integrated Preclinical Drug Development - she guided the establishment, growth and industry engagement of the Centre through skillful scientific leadership of a high-performing team. In that period, Centre personnel completed more than 700 R&D contracts in collaboration with more than 200 industry and academic clients in the biopharmaceutical sector.
Mr Alan Joyce AC

Alan Joyce has been Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of the Qantas Group since November 2008. In his time as CEO, he has overseen the biggest transformation of Qantas since it was privatised in 1995, including the turnaround and renewed growth of Qantas International, the expansion of Qantas and Jetstar throughout Asia, the diversification of the Qantas Loyalty business with new ventures, the renewal of the Group’s fleet with more than 150 new aircraft, and ongoing investment in lounges, technology and training. Prior to this he was the founding CEO of Jetstar. Mr Joyce was named a Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) in the Queen's Birthday 2017 Honours List for his services to “the aviation transport industry, to the development of the national and international tourism sectors, to gender equity, inclusion and diversity, and to the community, particularly as a supporter of Indigenous education”. Mr Joyce is a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society and the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Applied Science (Physics and Mathematics) (Honours) and a Master of Science in Management Science.

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